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PATENT
NON-FINAL

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Appl. No. : 10/067,918 Confirmation No. 8669
Applicant : Shigekazu SHUKU et al.
Filed : February 8, 2002
TC/A.U. : 1774
Examiner : Bruce H. Hess
Dkt. No. : SAE-027
Cust. No. : 20374

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RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111
TO THE FIRST OFFICE ACTION DATED JANUARY 29, 2004

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

July 29, 2004

Sir:

This paper is submitted in response to the Office Action dated January 29, 2004. A petition for a three-month extension of the period for responding to the Action is being filed concurrently herewith.

Please amend the application as directed below and consider the remarks that follow.